

What is claimed is:

~~1. An image display method comprising the steps of:~~

performing interimage processing on two original images, constituting each of two or more pairs of original images selected from three or more original images taken of the same subject, which become objects of comparison and reading; and arranging, or switching in sequence, and displaying two or more interimage-processed images generated by said interimage processing.

2. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said two or more interimage-processed images are arranged in a manner in which display positions of structurally characteristic parts of said subject in said two or more interimage-processed images are aligned.

3. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said two or more interimage-processed images are switched in sequence in a manner in which display positions of structurally characteristic parts of said subject in said two or more interimage-processed images are registered.

4. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said three or more original images are taken in sequence in a time series manner.

5. The image display method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said three or more original images are taken in sequence in a time series manner.

6. The image display method as set forth in claim 3,

~~wherein said three or more original images are taken in sequence~~
in a time series manner.

7. The image display method as set forth in claim 1,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
5 image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
generated based on said image.

8. The image display method as set forth in claim 2,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
10 generated based on said image.

9. The image display method as set forth in claim 3,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
15 generated based on said image.

10. The image display method as set forth in claim
4, wherein one of said two original images is selected as a
reference image so that each of said interimage-processed images
is generated based on said image.

11. The image display method as set forth in claim
20 7, wherein said three or more original images are acquired in
sequence in a time series manner, and said reference image is
the newest or oldest in a time series.

12. The image display method as set forth in claim
4, wherein each of said interimage-processed images is generated
25 by performing said interimage processing on two of said three
or more original images which are adjacent in a time series.

13. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said interimage processing is the process of performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

5 14. The image display method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said interimage processing is the process of performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

10 15. The image display method as set forth in claim 3, wherein said interimage processing is the process of performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

15 16. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said interimage processing is the process of registering positions of structural elements of said two original images.

20 17. The image display method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said interimage processing is the process of registering positions of structural elements of said two original images.

25 18. The image display method as set forth in claim 3, wherein said interimage processing is the process of registering positions of structural elements of said two original images.

19. The image display method as set forth in claim 1, wherein, in said interimage processing the process of

~~registering positions of structural elements of said two~~
original images is first performed, and then the process of
performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two
original images is performed.

5 20. The image display method as set forth in claim
2, wherein, in said interimage processing the process of
registering positions of structural elements of said two
original images is first performed, and then the process of
performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two
original images is performed.

10 21. The image display method as set forth in claim
3, wherein, in said interimage processing the process of
registering positions of structural elements of said two
original images is first performed, and then the process of
performing subtraction between corresponding pixels in said two
original images is performed.

15 22. The image display method as set forth in claim
1, wherein said two or more interimage-processed images are
arranged, or switched in sequence, and displayed, in the order
that said original images on which said interimage-processed
20 images are based were taken.

 23. The image display method as set forth in claim
1, wherein said three or more images are medical radiation
images.

25 24. The image display method as set forth in claim
2, wherein each of said interimage-processed images is generated

~~by performing said interimage processing on two of said three or more original images which are adjacent in a time series.~~

25. The image display method as set forth in claim 3, wherein each of said interimage-processed images is generated by performing said interimage processing on two of said three or more original images which are adjacent in a time series.

26. An image display unit comprising:

image display means;

interimage processing means for performing interimage processing on two original images, constituting each of two or more pairs of original images selected from three or more original images of the same subject, which become objects of comparison and reading; and

display-format setting means for causing said image display means to arrange, or switch in sequence, and display two or more interimage-processed images obtained by said interimage processing means.

27. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26, further comprising registration means for aligning display positions of structurally characteristic parts of said subject in said two or more interimage-processed images.

28. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26, further comprising registration means for registering display positions of structurally characteristic parts of said subject in said two or more interimage-processed images.

29. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,

wherein said three or more original images were taken in sequence
in a time series manner.

30. The image display unit as set forth in claim 27,
wherein said three or more original images were taken in sequence
in a time series manner.

31. The image display unit as set forth in claim 28,
wherein said three or more original images were taken in sequence
in a time series manner.

32. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
generated based on said reference image.

33. The image display unit as set forth in claim 27,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
generated based on said reference image.

34. The image display unit as set forth in claim 28,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
generated based on said reference image.

35. The image display unit as set forth in claim 29,
wherein one of said two original images is selected as a reference
image so that each of said interimage-processed images is
generated based on said reference image.

36. The image display unit as set forth in claim 32,
wherein said three or more original images were taken in sequence

in a time series manner, and said selected one original image
is the newest or oldest in a time series.

37. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein each of said interimage-processed images is generated
by performing said interimage processing on two of said three
or more original images which are adjacent in a time series.

38. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of performing subtraction
between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

39. The image display unit as set forth in claim 27,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of performing subtraction
between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

40. The image display unit as set forth in claim 28,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of performing subtraction
between corresponding pixels in said two original images.

41. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images.

42. The image display unit as set forth in claim 27,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images.

43. The image display unit as set forth in claim 28,
wherein said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means is the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images.

5 44. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein, in said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means, the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images is first
performed, and then the process of performing subtraction
10 between corresponding pixels in said two original images is
performed.

45. The image display unit as set forth in claim 27,
wherein, in said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means, the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images is first
performed, and then the process of performing subtraction
between corresponding pixels in said two original images is
performed.

20 46. The image display unit as set forth in claim 28,
wherein, in said interimage processing in said interimage
processing means, the process of registering positions of
structural elements of said two original images is first
performed, and then the process of performing subtraction
between corresponding pixels in said two original images is
25 performed.

47. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,

wherein said display-format setting means arranges, or switches
in sequence, and displays said two or more interimage-processed
images in the order that said original images on which said
interimage-processed images are based were taken.

5 48. The image display unit as set forth in claim 26,
wherein said three or more images are medical radiation images.